

Appl. No. 09/838,070
Amendment Dated July 16, 2003
Reply to Office Action of May 7, 2003

Amendments to the Specification

[0018] The preferred operating conditions for using the present catalysts include temperatures of about 900°C to about 1300°C, and more preferably from about 1000°C to about 1200°C, and pressure of about 110 kPa to about 3000 kPa, and more preferably from about 500 kPa to about 3000 kPa. The feed stream comprising a hydrocarbon feedstock and oxygen gas is preferably preheated to from about 50°C to about 700°C, ~~and more preferably to about 400°C,~~ before contacting the catalyst. In some embodiments the feed stream is preheated to at least about 350°C, and more preferably to about 400°C. Typical space velocities for the process are from about 60,000 hr⁻¹ to about 20,000,000 hr⁻¹, and are preferably from about 150,000 hr⁻¹ to about 10,000,000 hr⁻¹.